GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:964
ANSWERED ON:08.02.2017
Compensation to Displaced Indians
Bidhuri Shri Ramesh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of payment of compensation to Indians displaced from Iraq and Kuwait because of Gulf War in 1991;

(b) whether the Ministry has approached the United Nations Compensation Commission in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
(SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

(a) to (c) The United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) was set up by the United Nations in 1991 to process claims and pay compensation to persons of various nationalities, including Indians, for losses and damage suffered during the Gulf War in 1990-91. The final deadline for preferring individual compensation claims with the UNCC was 1 January 1996.

A Special Kuwait Cell (SKC) was established in the Ministry of External Affairs in 1991 to facilitate processing of the individual compensation claims. On receipt, all such claims were forwarded by the SKC to the UNCC for further processing.

The UNCC concluded the claims processing exercise in 2005 and the process of payments to individuals was concluded in 2007.

The Governing Council of the UNCC did not agree to accept any individual claims that were preferred beyond the prescribed deadline of 1 January 1996, despite several requests by the Government of India.

The Governing Council of the UNCC has further notified that the Commission would neither reconsider any resolved claims nor would it accept any new claims, regardless of the circumstances. The UNCC has already wound up its office dealing with processing of claims and their payment.